

Southern California, and, as an undergraduate cooperative education student from Virginia Tech, at the Department of Agriculture's Animal Parasitology Institute in Maryland.

Throughout her lengthy career, Jo Anne has been the recipient of numerous awards, including three NIH Director's Awards and five more NIH Merit Awards for dedication, initiative, and exemplary contributions to various projects. Jo Anne has also won the 1996 Outstanding Performance Award from the NCI's division of cancer biology, and the 2007 Federal Executive Institute's Certificate of Achievement.

What is most striking about Jo Anne—aside from her remarkable intelligence and passion for her work—is her easygoing and humorous nature. A true joke teller, Jo Anne loves to laugh and make others laugh with her. She is a kind and generous person who is constantly willing to help her coworkers in any way possible. Jo Anne always has a smile on her face, and her upbeat personality makes her a pleasure to work with.

Additionally, Jo Anne and her husband Will have a home in Lamaine, a small coastal town near Maine's beautiful Acadia National Park. They find themselves driving to Maine at least once a month, and Jo Anne hopes to relocate there in the coming years. It is wonderful talking with her about all of the great and unique places to visit in the area, and I am thrilled that she has fallen so deeply in love with my home State.

Jo Anne also enjoys spending time with her colleagues off the Hill. In October, she organized an office chili cook-off, where members of my staff brought pots of their homemade chili to Jo Anne's home. There, they enjoyed a wonderful afternoon dedicated to getting to know one another better while consuming numerous varieties of chili. Jo Anne was a gracious hostess, and everyone greatly enjoyed the experience.

I am honored to have had someone as talented and passionate as Jo Anne Goodnight on my staff. Jo Anne brings a visible sense of dedication and professionalism to the job every day, and her commendable work ethic and incredible creativity are sources of pride. I wish Jo Anne and her family the best of luck as she transitions back to the NIH, and look forward to seeing her in Maine.

2010 CENSUS

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I commemorate the launch of the 2010 Decennial Census in Noorvik, AK, and thank the U.S. Census bureau for the honor of kicking off this decade's census. Our State is honored to once again have this privilege. I am proud our country is acknowledging the contributions of all its citizens by beginning this historic count in a small, rural village in Alaska.

Noorvik is a rural community in the Northwest Arctic Borough of Alaska

with a population of 642 residents. Because there are no roads linking the community to the rest of the State, it is only accessible by plane or shallow-draft vessel. The majority of the population consists of Inupiaq Eskimo residents primarily working as miners, construction workers, teachers, and public administrators. Noorvik may be a small town, but its residents contribute a great deal to Alaska's infrastructure and industry. Therefore, it is important the decennial count begin in this small yet significant community. The Census will also provide several thousand jobs for Alaskans, who will be travelling to remote areas to collect accurate data from our most remote regions.

The U.S. Census is a valuable and time-honored tradition. Its roots can be traced back to article 1, section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, where the founders of our democracy stated, "The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years." When our Nation was founded, the Census was a way to determine the number of each State's delegation in the House of Representatives. Since then, the Census has become more than a mechanism for allotting congressional seats, but also provides policymakers with the data they need to better serve Americans.

I thank the U.S. Census Bureau for launching the 2010 Decennial Census in Noorvik, AK. This is a great opportunity to reach out to rural Alaska and honor our State's rich cultural heritage.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IDAHO WHEAT COMMISSION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to recognize the Idaho Wheat Commission, which celebrated its 50th anniversary recently. The Idaho Wheat Commission was founded in 1959 and has been a leader in the wheat industry, working on behalf of Idaho's wheat growers and providing them with an invaluable service. Wheat is one of Idaho's top five commodities; it is grown in nearly every county; and Idaho is ranked 10th in national production of wheat. The Idaho Wheat Commission engages in research, market development, consumer education and much more on behalf of Idaho wheat growers.

The Idaho Wheat Commission funds research and provides science-based information to Idaho wheat growers concerning topics such as improved wheat variety, pest management and best practices. Research and information on these and many other topics help Idaho Wheat growers remain competitive and profitable. The Idaho Wheat Commission also aids growers by playing an important role in the development of

markets at home and overseas, which helps Idaho growers find new and emerging markets for their wheat. More than 50 percent of Idaho's wheat crop is exported to over 90 other countries around the world.

The Idaho Wheat Commission, along with the University of Idaho Extension, the Idaho Grain Producer Association and the Idaho Barley commission, sponsors Cereal Schools in many different Idaho counties. These schools educate and update growers on various issues, such as results from new studies and trials or current legislative issues. They also conduct Wheat Quality Workshops twice a year where growers get a hands-on education on the importance of growing quality wheat.

Because of their many excellent educational and informational programs, the Idaho Wheat Commission has had, and will continue to have, a positive influence on the Idaho wheat industry. The Idaho Wheat Commission has been working for Idaho's wheat growers for 50 years, helping to fund research and education and to develop new markets for growers. In their first 50 years, they have succeeded at this and much more. Congratulations to the Idaho Wheat Commission for 50 years of supporting the growers of one of Idaho's most important crops. I look forward to its next 50.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE FRAZIER

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a man who I am proud to call a fellow Arkansan. Hope native George Frazier, 91, embodies Arkansas and the values we hold so close to our hearts: community, family, and faith. Earlier this month, George was honored by his fellow Kiwanis Club members in Hope for 62 years of service in the organization.

Known by some as "Mr. Hope, Arkansas," George and his wife Effie have touched countless members of the Hope community, including former President Bill Clinton, who telephoned George on his 75th birthday to thank him for the positive impact he had on his life. George is such an integral part of his community that the local newspaper, The Hope Star, recently penned a series of articles in his honor.

I salute George Frazier and all residents of Hope for their strong sense of Arkansas values and community pride. Renowned for its annual watermelon festival, Hope is often said to be "a slice of the good life." I couldn't agree more.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR STEVEN HALL AND CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER RICKY BULLINGER

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor two brave Arkansas Guardsmen who risked their lives to rescue a citizen in need. Maumelle resident Major Steven Hall, a native of Rector, and Chief Warrant Officer Ricky Bullinger of North Crossett recently received the